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CURRENT SUPPORT BRIEF

SOVIET ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE SINO-SOVIET BLOC COUNTRIES

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND REPORTS

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOVIET ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE SINO-SOVIET BLOC COUNTRIES

On 6 January 1961, Nikita Khrushchev reported that economic assistance extended by the Soviet Union to socialist countries in the postwar period totaled 7.8 billion (new) rubles 1/ or \$8.7 billion. Although similar summary statements were made in February 1956, July 1957, and October 1959 reporting total Soviet assistance to Bloc countries of \$5.3 billion, 2/ \$7.0 billion, 3/ and \$7.5 billion, 4/ respectively, for the first time data are now available which make it possible to confirm such announcements by aggregating individually reported Soviet credits, grants, and all other types of economic assistance extended to Bloc countries.

Of the total \$8.7 billion in Soviet economic assistance reportedly made available to the Sino-Soviet Bloc during the period 1945-60 \$4.9 billion were credits and \$3.8 billion were grants (\$1.5 billion of which represents canceled repayments on previous credits). In the period since 1955, the inception of the Soviet trade and aid offensive in lesser developed countries of the Free World, the USSR has extended a total of \$4.2 billion of economic assistance to other countries of the Sino-Soviet Bloc (\$1.3 billion of which represents cancellations of repayment on previously extended credits). Such aid to the Bloc compares with a total of \$2.8 billion in Soviet economic assistance extended to Free World countries during the same period. The following Table shows Soviet credits and grants to Bloc countries categorized into major types of such assistance.

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TABLE 1
Soviet Credits and Grants to the Sino-Soviet Bloc, 1945-60 5/
(million of US dollars)

| | Credits | | | | | Grants* | | | |
|-----------------|---------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|---------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| | Total | Economic Development | Commodity Deliveries | Gold and Repurchase Foreign Exchange | of Joint Stocks | Total | Economic Development | Commodity Deliveries | Transfers of Soviet Property Other |
| Total Bloc | 8,713 | 4,929 | 944 | 403 | 644 | 3,784 | 531 | 14 | 2,661 |
| Eastern Europe | 6,625 | 3,693 | 944 | 403 | 569 | 2,932 | 106 | 9 | 2,561 |
| Albania | 245 | 139 | 16 | -- | -- | 106 | 106 | -- | -- |
| Bulgaria | 665 | 506 | 52 | 12 | 96 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Czechoslovakia | 62 | -- | 23 | 38 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| East Germany | 3,106 | 1,268 | 249 | 214 | 390 | 1,838 | -- | -- | 1,664 |
| Hungary | 584 | 373 | 184 | 75 | -- | 211 | -- | 9 | 180 |
| Poland | 974 | 914 | 324 | 40 | -- | 60 | -- | -- | -- |
| Rumania | 989 | 272 | 96 | 24 | 83 | 717 | -- | -- | 717 |
| Far East | 2,088 | 1,236 | -- | -- | 75 | 852 | 425 | 5 | 100 |
| Communist China | 505 | 505 | -- | -- | 75 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| North Korea | 689 | 42 | -- | -- | -- | 647 | 325 | -- | -- |
| North Vietnam | 365 | 260 | -- | -- | -- | 105 | 100 | 5 | -- |
| Outer Mongolia | 529 | 429 | -- | -- | -- | 100 | -- | -- | 100 |

* Includes all assistance for which no repayment is required.

NOTE: Figures may not add because of rounding.

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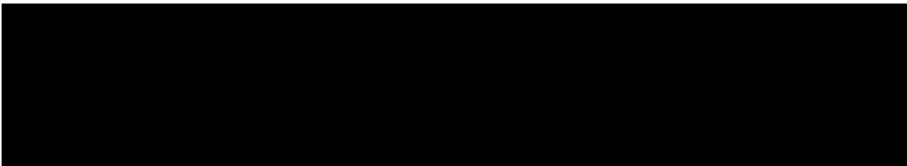


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